

Vol. 2 No. 2 AUTUMN 1967



BUFORA

JOURNAL

BRITISH U.F.O. RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

THE BUFORA JOURNAL AND BULLETIN

Volume 2 Number 2

Autumn 1967

CONTENTS

Editorial	...	...	...	...	...	2
We Must "Rethink The Image" !	...	...	...	...	...	3
The Problem of the Unidentified Flying Objects	...	...	...	...	...	6
Notes & Quotes	...	...	...	...	...	9
Satellites and UFOs.	...	...	...	...	...	11
Letters to the Editor	...	...	...	...	...	12
Association Jottings	...	...	...	...	...	13
Book Reviews	...	...	...	...	...	14
UFOs in Chile	...	...	...	...	...	16
Obituary	...	...	...	...	...	19
BUFORA Information	...	...	...	...	...	20

The BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1964

AIMS:

1. To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into Unidentified Flying Object phenomena.
2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to Unidentified Flying Objects.
3. To co-ordinate UFO Research on a nation-wide scale and co-operate with persons and organisations engaged upon similar research in all parts of the world.

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EDITORIAL

UFO-researchers as a whole will no doubt welcome the recent wave of interest in their subject on the part of scientists. If they are not cheering quite as loudly as might have been expected, the reason may be sought in the belated response of the scientific world to a challenge which it ought to have accepted twenty years ago.

Basically, after all, the position now is what it was at any time after 1947. A large and continually increasing body of witnesses, some of them experienced observers, have reported sightings of what would appear to be flying machines of unusual design, in all likelihood the products of an advanced technology, operating in our skies. The reports are world-wide, correlate frequently as to detail and are both numerous and persistent.

It might have been expected that scientists would have made haste to investigate a phenomena of this kind, adopting as a working hypothesis that real flying machines of some kind were at the bottom of the reports. This hypothesis, the least implausible in the circumstances, might not have stood up to extended investigation. At anyrate, it would have involved an examination of the reported characteristics of the various types of UFOs alleged to have been seen. The teeth of the scientists would have been sunk — as they should have been sunk — in the raw material of the UFO mystery, out of which data might have been extracted.

Nothing of the kind happened. The first scientific reaction was alarmingly like the reaction of an illiterate mob confronted with the unknown and unexpected. The integrity and mental stability of witnesses and students were impugned and their powers of observation questioned, often quite gratuitously.

When this frontal attack failed, a new tactic was devised which is still in operation to some extent. This was the 'blanket explanation,' which seeks to explain away all UFO phenomena as due to sounding-balloons (Powell), ball-lightning (Klass), light phenomena (Menzel) and the like. The strength of the tactic resides in the fact that many UFO reports relate to misidentified known objects and natural phenomena. Its weakness lies in the inability of any single explanation to account for every report.

Furthermore, when all the pseudo-UFOs have been weeded-out by a process of careful evaluation, there remains an obstinate residue of sightings not attributable to conventional objects or natural phenomena. If these 'rogue' reports were no more than hoaxes or remained unknown simply because of lack of full information about them, there would be no 'family resemblance' between them and they could be written off as mere casual erratics. There is, however, such a resemblance between most of the reports in this 'Unknown' category. Most of the unknowns look and sound and behave like flying machines and I know of no convincing reason why, in the circumstances, they should not be classified, provisionally at anyrate, as flying machines of unknown origin.

Perhaps fear is at the bottom of the widespread scientific unwillingness to admit the possibility that an alien civilisation — or more than one — may be sending craft into our skies. It is probable, after all, that direct contact with advanced scientists from elsewhere would leave our savants very much in the position of tribal witch-doctors, with their cherished beliefs and pretensions irretrievably shattered. Subconsciously they may react against so dire a possibility, by declining to entertain the extra-terrestrial hypothesis of UFO origin as long as any other, no matter how tenuous, is open to them.

Recently, with other UFO-researchers, I was in a position to quiz a member of the 'University of Colorado's UFO Investigation Team who was visiting this Country. I was impressed by the frankness of the answers given and have no doubt that the Team will do the best job of which it is capable. Even so, I remain sceptical of the ultimate results of its enquiries. I cannot bring myself to believe that a verdict on UFO phenomena will be rendered which might well represent a sentence of death on contemporary Science.

No doubt the climate of educated opinion is changing in respect of UFOs. Even so, unless I am greatly mistaken, we have still a long, lone fight to wage before our point of view is accepted.

WE MUST "RETHINK THE IMAGE" !

Of all the strange characteristics of UFOs the most mysterious is their motive power. Their speed, attainable altitude, incredible acceleration, and not least their ability to hover, apparently indefinitely, all startle the onlooker lucky enough to see one (and, we can be certain, cause a great deal of concern in other quarters).

Despite the considerable amount of observational data gleaned over the decades, often by technically qualified observers, nobody has been able to explain satisfactorily the motive force causing the described phenomena. We have usually shrugged it off as "advanced technology", or "maybe we'll learn one day". The favourite term is "antigravity", obviously pulled straight out of the lower classes of science fiction.

It seems to me worthwhile making a serious attempt to find a rational mechanism whereby the U.F.O. can accelerate and hover as phenomenally as has been observed. One or two tries have been made, but in an attempt to keep the ball rolling, I have developed the hypothesis which is set out below. It is, of course, speculation; and yet the fundamental basis is not new, merely a case of "rethinking the image".

PROPOSITION 1 : A U.F.O. has mass. Reasonable, one might think, but we are here assuming that it is not an optical or mental illusion. If a U.F.O. is the latter, then we have great cause for concern that so many of our fellow men are subject, independently and simultaneously, to such hallucinations. One cannot help but notice that our health services have never been asked to investigate the phenomenon! As serious U.F.O. researchers, perhaps we can accept the Proposition as true.

PROPOSITION 2 : To move a mass requires force. Also reasonable, ever since Newton. Therefore, a U.F.O. must apply force to its mass when doing anything except resting on the ground. Hovering, for example, presumably requires a constant force applied upwards against the action of gravity, exactly balancing that action.

So far so good, and very orthodox. I am now going to "rethink the image" and perform a little twist which will make a big difference to those two Propositions and the corollaries that depend therefrom.

PROPOSITION 3.: There is no such thing as mass pause for reaction do I hear cries (even shouts) of "Explain, explain?" Well, here goes. I am suggesting that we are in the same position today regarding the nature of mass, space, and time, as we were some decades ago regarding energy. At that time, we did not understand how light, heat, sound, vibration, motion and force X distance, all were energy, and could be transformed from one to the other interchangeably (albeit sometimes inefficiently). Least of all did we appreciate the equivalence of energy and mass; not many of us understand that bit even now!

Perhaps we are now only one stage forward in understanding (and many, many, stages forward in arrogance!) and are cockily viewing the Universe from beside our Saturn V rockets, thinking how clever we are, and conveniently forgetting that for every thousand tons of ironmongery that leaves the launching pad, only a ton or so finally struggles up the gravitational well of little Earth (only to roll around that of the Sun when it gets far enough).

Specifically, I am suggesting that what we call mass, m , and write into equations such as $P=ma$, and $G=mm^*/r^2$, or $E=mc^2$ and $K.E=\frac{1}{2}mv^2$, is really only an **observed effect** of two aspects of the presence of matter (not mass, matter), namely inertia (I) and gravitation (G). Essentially, what I am saying is that I and G are not corollaries of m , but that m is a corollary of I and G, and a totally artificial one at that! Not much of a change you might think, but it has rather startling effects. If "mass" were indeed an entity, a part of the existence of matter, we would be stuck. It would be so essentially part of the Universe, that we probably could never manipulate its properties to achieve anything.

However, if my suggestion is correct, then the interactions of matter (Inertia and Gravitation) may be manipulable, being "second order" phenomena, as opposed to the "first order" phenomenon of "mass" which ranks equally with the other "first order" phenomena of dimension, and time, in our present way of thinking.

Now, if we have only Inertia and Gravitation to deal with, what openings present themselves? I suggest that we try to introduce an asymmetry into one of these effects. Nature is essentially conservative of energy, and has arranged that Inertia, to take one example, is equally strong an effect in all directions. An asymmetry would be a strained condition of matter/space, requiring energy to be expended in its production. Nature would not allow such a condition to exist as a natural state. Perhaps, we however, may presume to expend that energy? If we knew how, and did, we might observe some remarkable effects. Suppose, for example, that we had a nuclear reactor next to that Saturn V we were so cocky about, dissipating maybe kilomegawatts of raw energy, which we, in our newly discovered clever way, were using to cause an asymmetry in the inertia of that Saturn V. Suppose that the asymmetry was so arranged that in the "down" direction, the inertia was made very, very large, and in the "up" direction, very, very small. In all other directions, it would be normal. If we could do that, then

a child could walk up to the base of that enormous massive (even fully fuelled) structure and with a light push send it speeding upwards towards the stars. Air resistance would slow it down and eventually it would be virtually hovering some hundreds of feet in the air. All, be it noted, without a single atom of fuel being used for reaction mass ejection (exhaust). Mind you its not done free. That reactor is glowing red hot in its effort to produce sufficient energy to maintain the asymmetry of Inertia for every atom, every nucleon, and electron making up the matter ("mass") of that Saturn. The Law of Conservation of Energy must be obeyed. We have won something, though. Instead of consuming several tons of fuel each second and squirting it out of the rear end as a blazing Niagara of ultimately useless hot gas, we are now consuming a fraction of an ounce of Uranium or Plutonium, smoothly, silently, and efficiently.

This must, of course, be a "field effect". It must act on all parts of the device whether Saturn V or U.F.O. When Inertia asymmetry is produced in some direction, and the appropriate small force applied that is needed to send it hurtling off, the occupants must partake of the effect, or else be squashed flat by acceleration forces.

The field effect would not necessarily be entirely limited to the volume of the U.F.O. I recall with interest that one or two reports describe a "feeling of lightness" in the vicinity of a U.F.O. that was in a hovering condition. I recall also a report by an American research chemist who described concentric rings around a U.F.O. when viewed through polarising sunglasses. One of the first effects of any sort of physical asymmetry is polarisation of materials, in this instance the air around the U.F.O.

Elaboration can be endless, and space is limited, so I will develop the scheme only a little further here.

Suppose that we choose a direction of motion for our device, the direction in which we want to move. Upwards, sideways, or whatever. We increase the energy output from our reactor so as to reduce inertia in that chosen direction, and when we get the inertia low enough, or even to zero, a very small force will send our craft careering, with enormous acceleration (as seen by an outside observer, that is, for we feel nothing) towards our objective. This still requires the application of some force, and to use a reaction engine at this stage would be rather pitiful. I suggest that the reactor be turned up a little further so as to generate sufficient energy to reduce the inertia below zero! The negative inertia is exactly equivalent to force, so we go zipping off without any expenditure of mass whatever. We have effectively converted energy of one for m (free energy from the reactor) into another (kinetic energy of motion.)

Another intriguing corollary is that if the effect of inertia asymmetry is a field effect, then perhaps we may find that the space/time restrictions of relativity have also been made asymmetric and that we can travel several times faster than the normal speed of light in the direction of the generated strain. Such a phenomenon would immediately open up the possibility of true interstellar flight. But perhaps I'll leave it there

I hope to see many letters criticising the above, I hope constructively. I have flung down the gauntlet, let he who picks it up be symmetrical and straight!

A. David Beach,
August, 1967.

THE PROBLEM OF THE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

by James E. McDonald

(Senior Physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, and Professor,
Department of Meteorology, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona).

(Summary of a talk given October 19, 1966, to the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Meteorological Society, Washington, D.C. To meet a number of requests for a brier summation of the above talk, this has been prepared as an extension and revision of a short digest of which a limited number of copies were available at the time of the AMS meeting.)

ABSTRACT. Conclusions drawn from a continuing, intensive study of the problem of the UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) were summarized. Although atmospheric phenomena (ball lightning, mirages, scintillation, parhelia, anomalous radar propagation, etc.) have been invoked to account for many UFO reports, such explanations have been seriously misapplied. Specific examples were discussed.

Careful scrutiny of hundreds of the better UFO reports from quite credible observers during the past twenty years (and longer) reveals that not only does it seem impossible to explain them away in terms of atmospheric physics, but also the other officially proposed categories of geophysical, astronomical, technological, and psychological hypotheses fail to encompass the UFO phenomena. Reasons were given for regarding as probably the least unsatisfactory hypothesis that of the extraterrestrial nature of the UFOs. Serious shortcomings in the past official investigations of the UFO problem were discussed, and a radical change in the level of scientific study of the problem was urged.

One might group past and current explanations of the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) into eight broad categories comprising the following spectrum of UFO hypotheses :

1. Hoaxes, fabrications, and frauds ;
2. Hallucinations, mass hysteria, rumor phenomena ;
3. Lay misinterpretations of well-known physical phenomena (meteorological, astronomical, optical, etc.) ;
4. Advanced technologies (test vehicles, satellites, re-entry effects) ;
5. Poorly understood physical phenomena (rare atmospheric-electrical effects, cloud phenomena, plasmas of natural or technological origin, etc.) ;
6. Poorly understood psychological phenomena ;
7. Extraterrestrial probes ;
8. Messengers of salvation and occult truth.

There appears to be general agreement among all who have seriously studied the past 20 years of UFO reports, here and abroad, that Categories 1 through 4 do indeed account for a substantial number of reported "unidentified aerial phenomena." However, when such cases are eliminated, there remains a still-sizeable residuum of unexplained reports from credible observers. Categories 5 and 6, to the extent that they constitute explanations in terms of the still-unknown, are intrinsically difficult to handle in logical fashion. Nevertheless, one can attempt reasonable extrapolations from present knowledge and thereby put certain rough bounds on the probable range of present ignorance. Admitting that certain UFO cases may come to be understood in terms of improved knowledge in Categories 5 or 6, I find no adequate basis for accounting for the entire problem in such terms. I would

emphasize that I now regard Category 6 as the only important alternative to Category 7, but discussions of typical cases with psychologists has led to no promising clues in this area. Category 8 is accepted by a distressingly large and vocal group outside the scientific community, but I am not aware that supporters of Category 8 have shed any useful light on the basic problem. My own study of this problem has led me to the conclusion that Category 7 now constitutes the **least unsatisfactory hypothesis** for accounting for the intriguing array of credibly reported UFO phenomena that are on record and that do not appear to fit acceptably into the first six cited categories. Needless to say, the *a priori* probability of Category 7 appears to be exceedingly low in terms of present scientific knowledge.

My study of past official Air Force investigations (Project Bluebook) leads me to describe them as **completely superficial**. They have, for at least the past dozen years, been carried out at a **very low level of scientific competence** as a very low-priority task (one of about 200 within the Foreign Technology Division, Wright-Patterson AFB). Officially released "explanations" of important UFO sightings have often been almost absurdly erroneous. In only a few instances has there been any on-the-spot field investigation by Bluebook personnel, and much of that has been quite superficial. On the other hand, official press releases, statements to Congress, etc., have conveyed an impression of expertise and investigative thoroughness that has led both the public and the scientific community at large to accept the conclusion that no significant scientific problem exists with respect to UFOs. This impression has, of course, been enhanced by journalistic fun-poking and by the dismaying actions of many cultist groups. It seems to me to be important to secure much more extensive scientific study of the UFO problem, preferably involving not only the Air Force, but other more scientifically-oriented agencies. That the official Air Force position has for over fifteen years been one of public assurance of no UFO hostility argues the reasonableness of turning over substantial portions of the UFO investigative problem to science-oriented federal agencies in the near future. The recently-announced "university teams" program is a laudible step forward. Much more effort seems warranted, and agencies such as NASA and NSF should participate actively in the task of rapid clarification of the long-standing confusion over the UFO problem. The work of independent organizations such as the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena (whose efforts impress me as much more thorough and open-minded than those of Project Bluebook) should be exploited and incorporated into all future studies.

A part of the background to the manner in which Bluebook has handled the UFO problem in the past dozen years is to be found in the complete report of the 1953 Robertson Panel. That scientific panel concluded that there was no strong evidence of any hostile UFO action. The Central Intelligence Agency, represented at the policy-drafting sessions closing the activities of the Robertson Panel, requested that the Air Force adopt a policy of systematic "debunking of flying saucers" to decrease public attention to UFOs. The reasons for this request were associated with the 1952 wave of UFO Reports, the largest wave ever recorded in the United States (possibly exceeded in **intensity** by the French wave of the fall of 1954). So many UFO reports were flooding into air bases throughout the country and other parts of the world in the summer of 1952 that the CIA regarded them as creating a national security problem: In event of enemy attack on the country, the clogging of military intelligence channels with large numbers of reports of the evidently non-hostile UFOs was regarded as an acceptable hazard. This CIA request, made in January 1953, was followed by the promulgation, in August, 1953, of Air Force Regulation 200-2, which produced a sharp drop-off in public reporting of Air Force

UFO sightings, by forbidding release, at air-base level, of any information on sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena. All sighting reports were to be funneled through Project Bluebook, where they have been largely categorized as conventional objects with little attention to scientific considerations. The strictures implicit in AFR 200-2 were made binding with promulgation of JANAP-146, which made any such public release of UFO information at air-base or local-command level (by any of the military services and, under certain circumstances, commercial airlines) a crime punishable with fines up to \$10,000 and imprisonment up to 10 years. These regulations have not only cut off almost all useful reports from military pilots, tower operators, and ground crews, but even more serious from a scientific viewpoint has been their drastic effect on non-availability of military radar data on UFOs. Prior to 1953, many significant UFO radar sightings were disclosed. Since then, military radar sightings have been scientifically compromised by confusing denials and allusions to "weather inversions" or "electronic malfunctions" whenever word of radar observations accidentally leaked out in the midst of a UFO episode. Air Force Regulation 200-2 contained the specific admonishment that "Air Force activities must reduce the percentage of unidentifieds to the minimum." This has been achieved.

Illustrating the serious discrepancies between Bluebook classifications and the publicly accessible facts are a number of cases that were discussed in my October 19th talk. These include: (1) "mirage" explanations, exemplified in the Arnold sighting near Mt. Rainier June 24, 1947, and many other cases ascribed to refraction effects; (2) anomalous radar-propagation explanations, perhaps best illustrated in the famous Washington National Airport sightings of July 19 and 26, 1952; "ball lightning" explanations as represented by the Levelland, Texas, case of November 2-3, 1957; (3) "astronomical" explanations such as those put forth in the Exeter, N.H., case of Sept. 3, 1965, the Damon, Texas, case of the same date (both subsequently retracted after outside queries), the widespread sightings in the Midwest on August 1, 1965, and most recently the Portage County (Ohio) case of April 17, 1966; (4) also certain "aircraft" and "meteor" explanations. Within the limits of the time available in the talk, other widely-circulated explanations of non-official character were also critically examined.

It is important to stress that there are baffling aspects of the available, credibly reported, UFO cases. It is not possible to offer any pat explanations of the temporal and spatial distributions of sightings. I reject as ill-considered any demands that one now be able to explain "why" the UFOs, if extraterrestrial, so often appear in relatively remote areas, why nighttime observations are more common than daytime, why we have no substantial evidence of any "contact" or "communication," etc. Intriguing as those questions may be, they immediately plunge one into completely unsupported speculations. The present urgent need is for much more scientific examination of the available UFO evidence in order to establish, or to reject, as the case may be, the very interesting possibility that these aerial objects may be some type of extraterrestrial probes.

It was recommended that Chapter members seeking an extensive summary of carefully checked and documented UFO cases should see:

THE UFO EVIDENCE, Richard H. Hall, editor, Published by NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena), 1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C., 20036, 184 pp, 1964.
Current price, \$5.00. (Available only from NICAP, not via book-stores.)

NOTES & QUOTES

WHO ARE THE SILENCERS ?

A Pentagon spokesman recently revealed that unknown men, in Air Force uniforms or bearing forged government credentials, have appeared in a number of areas of the United States and sought to silence UFO witnesses or to remove photographs of UFOs from the possession of their owners. All this recalls Al Bender and the Three Men in Black. Is it, I wonder, possible that some organisation of religious cranks, having a worldwide membership, is behind the many instances of suppression and attempted suppression of UFO information which are continually cropping up ? Any BUFORA members with information bearing on the silencers, or who may find themselves subjected to the unwelcome attentions of these people, are invited to communicate with me, in strictest confidence.

A CULT AT WARMINSTER ?

The Editor of 'Flying Saucer Review' has more than once expressed the fear that some kind of cult may spring up on the basis of the manifestations of the 'Thing' in the area. I have been studying the phenomena around this little Wiltshire town since January of 1965 — six months before the public furore began — and have not yet seen any signs of a cult emerging. If this should happen, I need hardly say that neither BUFORA nor I personally would support such a morbid manifestation.

IT'S ONLY BEING SO CHEERFUL !

'Scientists already have knowledge of the most deadly bug known to earth probably existing on other planets. From this bug is obtained botulinus toxin, eight ounces of which could wipe out the world's population The first Russian or American returning on a moon trip might bring on his boots or his clothes lethal germs for which the world has no antidote.'

— Extract from a report to the International Astronautical Congress, London.

SIGHTINGS & MORE SIGHTINGS.

I don't know what new ideas, if any, the Research Co-ordinator has in mind for presentation at the A.G.M. in October. I hope sincerely that BUFORA will not forever remain tied to the policy of hoarding every pitiful scrap of a UFO report as if it were a precious gem. Vague, doubtful and unenlightening reports should, upon receipt, be noted as statistics and relegated to a 'dud' file. We can learn more from a study of ten good reports than from cataloguing a hundred poor ones. We have not the staff or the facilities to deal with reports on a mass basis and it is not apparent that we should accomplish anything significant if we had. In UFO-research, quality, not quantity, is all-important.

TIMELY REMINDER ON 'MOTHER SHIPS.'

'The reported size of these objects would make them one of the most conspicuous things in the whole solar system ; certainly no material construction larger than an aircraft carrier would pass unnoticed even at the distance of Jupiter. If the objects are somehow capable of leaving our space-time continuum, they could bridge the interstellar gap with little trouble and could escape radar and visual detection as they approach and leave the terrestrial surface.'

— From 'Challenge to Science,' by Jacques & Janine Vallee, page 182.

UFO-DENIZENS — FRIENDLY OR HOSTILE ?

'To assist you now I will say there are two distinct forces and powers at work. One trying to assist us and the other to destroy. One of darkness and one of light ; positive and negative. Until you can get to the stage where clear discrimination between the two is possible, any weird or strange thing can happen and much harm can come both to yourself and those around you.'

— Extract from a letter written to Gray Barker

by Australian UFO-researcher Fred Stone.

A warning couched in such terms will inevitably arouse the derision of the person who regards Modern Science as having the last word on all things. Nevertheless, I regard it as worth reprinting and very well worth taking to heart. UFO-research is NOT a plaything for the immature.

THE UFO IN CARTOONS.

I have a number of first-rate cartoons inspired by the UFO subject. There is one from the 'Christian Science Monitor' showing an enormous saucer hovering over a city block. A citizen is remarking to his friend : "Let's see the Air Force hush this one up !" Another, from the National Press at the time of 'Warminster Week,' shows a swarm of UFOs above the heads of a couple of campers. The lady is remarking to her spouse : "I thought you said it would be a holiday away from the crowds." A recent effort portrays a very pretty girl walking along the beach in a bikini, observed from behind a rock by two little saucer denizens of the usual flopped-eared, flat-footed and bulbous-nosed variety. One is saying to the other : "I wouldn't like to meet THAT in a lonely spot on a dark night !" For my money, however, the best of all is an 'Evening News' essay by cartoonist Lee. Two old ladies are seen in an improvised bed underneath the stairs. "If you ask me, Agnes," one is remarking. "I think the Flying Saucers will always get through."

STILL NO CONTRIBUTIONS.

Wake up, all you readers with literary aspirations and information on UFOs ! There has been, as yet, no significant response to my appeal for contributions for the 'Journal.' Alms for the love of Allah !

J. C-B.

BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING

Revenue account for the

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions					
530 @ £1 - 1 - 0			556	10	0
2 @ 10/6d.			1	1	0
Add arrears collected	2	5			
prepayments	7	7	0	9	12
				0	
Less exchange losses			17	0	
				8	15
				0	
				566	6
					0
Donations					
				64	19
					9
Equipment Fund					
Purchases			(3	16	6)
Balance to Research Fund			(1	17	2)
				(5	13
					8)
Research Fund					
Donations	60	8	11		
Bal. from Equip.	1	17	2	62	6
				1	
Less purchases			130	18	1
				(68	12
				0)	
				(74	5
					8)
Meetings					
Takings				181	0
					7
Less room hire	101	5	0		
advertising	32	10	0		
library equipment hire	3	6	0		
refreshments	3	2	6		
insurance	4	5	0		
sundries	3	17	6		
prepayments for 1967/8	26	1	3	174	7
				1	
				6	13
					6
Literature sales to members			195	17	9
Less purchases, secretarial expenses, etc.			169	17	5
				26	0
					4
Newsletter subscriptions			7	3	8
Less production costs			10	10	7
				(3	6
					11)
Sundries (lecture fees, photo' section, tapes)				8	19
					6
Balance at Bank 1966 September 1				215	15
					11
				811	2
					5

OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

year ended 1967 August 31.

PAYMENTS

Journal expenses

Printing	238	17	6			
Posting	22	14	9			
Packing	5	13	0	267	5	3
Less advertising revenue	14	8	0			
sale back-numbers	1	10	0	15	18	0
				251	7	3

Research and Investigation costs

78 0 2

General Running Expenses

Secretarial (general and membership)	60	10	8			
Treasurer's secretarial	16	5	1			
Editorial	30	0	0			
Publicity and handouts	28	8	4			
Publications	64	6	6			
National Council Secretarial	5	6	8			
Field Research	4	3				
BUFORA phone (PAD 0305)	1	0	0			
Press-cutting agency	30	8	4			
Photographic section costs	3	0	0			
Bank Charges and Cheques	2	1	6			
Sundries	5	3		241	16	7

Balance at Bank 1967 August 31

239 18 5
811 2 5

I hereby certify that the above revenue account for year ending 31st Aug. 1967 is in accordance with the books, vouchers and information supplied to me on 23.9.67.

Nigel Ellis Esq., A.C.A.
(Hon. Auditor)

SATELLITES AND UFOs.

Introduction.

Ever since October 4 1957, the serious UFO-researcher has been burdened with yet another 'light in the sky' to eliminate as a possible explanation of certain UFO sightings — the artificial earth satellite. With over fifty objects in orbit visible to the naked eye (and a further 150 if binoculars are used), it is no wonder that most researchers think it an immense task to identify a possible satellite from a sighting report.

However, even if the particular satellite cannot be identified, there are a few points which can establish whether a satellite is the real culprit of a report or not. These are set out below.

Appearance.

All satellites appear as pin-points of light. Since they shine due to illumination by the Sun, they all appear white except possibly when near the horizon as atmospheric refraction can give them a reddish tinge. As yet no satellite is large enough to reflect sufficient light to be visible in daytime and none can be seen until the sun has set or is less than half an hour away from setting.

Not all satellites are of steady brightness. If they are tumbling in orbit, or have any surface irregularities, then they appear to 'flash' to an observer since the sunlight is reflected non-uniformly.

Motion.

Satellites move on a steady course, neither jerking along nor executing any rapid changes of direction (i.e. right angle turns, instantaneous reversals etc.). They are normally seen to rise from one horizon; move in a curve to their apex (highest point); and descend to the opposite horizon. Since the orbit may pass through the Earth's shadow, it is not unusual for a satellite to suddenly appear or go into eclipse.

The time of crossing from one horizon to another varies considerably — it can be as long as 30 minutes or as short as 30 seconds. Nearly all satellites are launched so that they travel from West to East, but those that are launched in what are called retrograde orbits, take at least ten minutes to make a transit.

Prediction.

In Britain all data about satellites is catalogued by the Radio and Space Research Station at Slough. They issue satellite predictions to qualified observers and are usually accurate to within a few minutes. However these are for long-lived satellites only. No predictions are issued for satellites which are recovered after about a week.

Daily newspapers such as the Sun, Daily Mail, and Daily Telegraph publish below the weather map each day, times for observing the large satellites Echo 1 Echo 2 and Pageos A, and these should first be consulted if a satellite is suspected in a UFO report.

Decay.

Observations of a satellite's re-entry and decay in the atmosphere are very rare and newspapers generally report the fact after it happens. If in any doubt, it is wise to write to the Radio and Space Research Station enquiring if a satellite has decayed.

Conclusion.

The foregoing notes are only a very brief guide to the elimination of satellite sightings from UFO reports and the amateur UFO-researcher would be well advised to familiarise himself with the appearance of a satellite by observing a few.

R. A. Jahn.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

While recently reading a copy of 'Flying Saucers UFO Reports' No. 2, I came across an article entitled 'Do the Tin Moons of Mars House Life?' This article considerably disturbed me by its wild theories which may have been taken to be the accepted ideas by people not well versed in astronomy.

Early in the article mention is made of the fact that a large number of astronomers are convinced that life exists on Mars. This, of course is not the case as while certain features exhibit changes which may be indicative of plant life this is by no means certain. The article goes on to suggest that Venus was ejected from the atmosphere of Jupiter while in actual fact this theory has no real basis. It also states that the temperature of Venus is about 800°C and not cold as astronomers once thought (I have never heard of anyone thinking that Venus was cold), this again is inaccurate as the Mariner Venus Probe only took temperature reading at the top of the atmosphere, where one would expect high temperatures, and not at the surface.

Turning to Mars the article makes five points which are shown to prove that the satellites of Mars are artificial. These to the best of my knowledge are either untrue or only show half of the facts. The answers to these points are listed below

viz :-

- 1) As far as I know no object so small and remote as Phobos and Deimos have ever been studied spectroscopically as their spectrum bands would be lost in the spectrum from the reflected sun light and by absorption in our own atmosphere.
- 2) The article makes no mention of the most obvious answer the origin of the two satellites namely that they are captured asteroids.
- 3) While Phobos and Deimos are the smallest known satellites in the solar system there is no reason why the outer planets should not have many more small moons which owing to their small size and great distance are not visible to us.
- 4) Most satellites exhibit spirality in their movements, our own moon being no exception although on a very small scale.
- 5) If the two satellites are captured asteroids this spirality could be expected to be more noticeable.

I do not think the case outlined above is unusual and while everyone has the right to express their own opinion on a subject, this should be made clear so that fact will not be confused with mere speculation.

58 Bridge Lane,
Frodsham,
Warrington, Lancs.

Sincerely yours,
J. A. Hodgkinson, F.R.A.S.
28 - 6 - 67.

ASSOCIATION JOTTINGS

In recent weeks we have received many letters from Members saying how much they like the "new-look" Journal. Those responsible for the change thank those Members for writing and are sorry that they cannot reply to each letter individually.

Two Member Societies, those in Croydon and North London, have ceased to be affiliated to BUFORA, but we are very pleased to welcome the South Lincolnshire UFO Study Group and the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena to Membership of the Association.

The Daily Telegraph Magazine printed a UFO article by Clement Freud on 22nd September, which contained many factual errors. Mr. K. Rogers is not, and never has been, Secretary or Treasurer of BUFORA (the article states that this person is both), and the Secretary, who is in fact Mike Holt, wishes to make it clear that he has never spoken to Mr. Freud, and has certainly never uttered the words attributed to him in the article.

Stephen Smith (Council Secretary) spent a pleasant informal evening with Members of the Scottish UFO Research Society in Edinburgh recently, which was also attended by two keen researchers from the new Galashiels UFO Group. I understand from both Stephen Smith and Sheila Walker that a useful exchange of views took place.

Mike Holt (Honorary Secretary) visited Newcastle at the end of September and managed to persuade Leslie Otley of T.U.F.O.S. to have a few drinks with him. They too had a pleasant time!

Membership of the Association is now just on 600, and thanks are due to those Members who have encouraged their friends and relations to join BUFORA.

The Honorary Secretary asks Members to look at their Membership Cards to see whether their subscriptions are due. If so, could they please send him a guinea.

Don't forget the Northern Regional Conference on November 4th, details of which may be obtained from David Hughes, 86 Trouville Road, Liverpool, 4.

It has been suggested by a number of people that BUFORA might operate a Translation Service. The Honorary Secretary is prepared to run this, but he must have the translators! Mike Holt would be grateful if ALL Members who are able and prepared to translate any foreign language, would write and let him know (address on page 1.) This request includes those people who indicated, on the back of their original Application Forms, that they were willing to do some translating. (Home Countries only.)

The Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena have been receiving a very good press in their local newspapers, and perhaps other people could employ similar tactics to publicise the existence of UFOs.

The BUFORA Library is now located at 5 Pitt Street, London, W.8. the residence of Capt. I. Mackay. Capt. Mackay's house is close to the Kensington Central Library, and it is hoped that these new arrangements will enable Members to make more use of these facilities. Capt. Mackay would like intending visitors to phone him in the evenings at 01 - WES - 3323, to make sure that it will be convenient for them to call at a particular time.

BOOK REVIEWS

Published by Neville Spearman, Ltd.,
112 Whitfield Street,
London, W.1.

Price 25/-

'CHALLENGE TO SCIENCE.' by Jacques & Janine Vallee.

I should like to begin this review by congratulating Messrs. Neville Spearman on the excellent manner in which this volume is produced. It is a pleasure to handle it.

The book itself is in some sense a continuation of Jacques Vallee's earlier contribution to UFO literature, 'Anatomy of a Phenomenon.' It develops many of the ideas Vallee mooted in his original essay into the field and does so always in a manner calculated to awaken the interest of scientists in a class of events hitherto largely ignored by them.

The seasoned UFO-researcher, indeed, may often find himself becoming impatient of what will appear to him to be the over-caution of the author in declining to entertain the notion of UFOs as extra-terrestrial vehicles as other than an hypothesis, on a level with that which would suppose them to be psychological projections or some sort of hitherto unknown natural phenomenon. However, the impact of the work upon the scientific mind will no doubt be the stronger for Vallee's non-committal attitude.

I feel myself that the author's reaction to the technique of evaluating UFO reports first developed by the late Captain Ruppelt of 'Bluebook,' as expressed in 'Anatomy of a Phenomenon,' detracts somewhat from the value of his researches. If we are to scrap the Ruppelt technique of assessing the value of reports, I, for one, would wish something a little more definitive to be substituted for it than the rather casual table of 'reliability weights' included in Appendix IV of this book.

Although not without faults, the volume is a 'must' for the UFO-researcher and contains a great deal of valuable information and data.

The foreword, by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, is a self-exculpatory essay on the writer's record as scientific consultant on UFOs to the U.S. Air Force.

J. C-B.

'FLYING SAUCERS — SERIOUS BUSINESS' by Frank Edwards.

Published by Mayflower Books, Ltd.,
Kingsbourne House,
229 - 231 High Holborn,
London, W.C.1.

Price 5/-

A lively and popular account of UFO investigation in the United States, by a writer whose untimely death robs UFO-research of a valuable ally.

'EINSTEIN: ESPACO-TEMPO' by Hernani Ebecken de Araujo.

Published by the Author at Rua Ferreira de Andrade, 599,
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Price Unknown.

There is a well-known schoolboy howler which describes the Equator as, 'a menagerie lion running around the Earth.' If the beast in question were capable of reaching a speed a trifle in excess of 41,667 kms/hour, in a direction contrary to that of the terrestrial rotation, he would, according to the author of this treatise,

travel into the past and arrive at his starting-point before he set out ! This would seem to be a somewhat revised version of the apocryphal feat of a certain damsel of whom it is written :

‘There was a young lady named Bright
Whose speed was much faster than light.
She set out one day
In a relative way,
To return on the previous night !’

I do not propose to follow Senhor de Araujo into the details of his hypothesis of Time Travel, which seem to me to be products of an imperfect understanding of Einstein’s theories and to confuse real duration, (whatever the true nature of this may be), with empirical human measurements in terms of clock-time. One can, of course, by going to the Pacific and scuttling to and fro across the International Date-Line, achieve ‘time travel’ to the extent of one day, in a purely nominal sense of course. I doubt that our author’s proposals, if they could be put into practice, would lead to anything less unsatisfactory.

As ‘proof’ of his ideas, the author cites various prehistoric cave-drawings at Varzelandia in Brazil. If indeed these portray discoid or other types of UFOs — which I would regard as doubtful — all that is proved is that the artists saw UFOs and drew what they saw. Time-travel considerations do not enter into the matter in any manner which is obvious to me.

At this point we take a dive into fantasy and are introduced to ‘Poseidon,’ an alleged second satellite of the Earth in 12,000 B.C. We are told that ‘Poseidon’ was worshipped by the Atlanteans, ‘according to Plato,’ albeit I have never happened upon any such reference in the ‘Timaeus’ or ‘Critias.’ We are sorry to learn that ‘Poseidon’ collided with an aerolite and vanished, carrying Atlantis with it into the shades. It is pointless to comment on this sort of thing, which appears to be a distorted version of the Hoerbiger-Bellamy ideas, as outlined in the well-known book, ‘Moons, Myths & Man,’ by the latter-named protagonist of the Cosmic Ice Theory.

That Time, as well as Space, may play a part in the riddle of the Unidentified Flying Objects, is a possibility which I have long entertained. Time Travel seems fantastic now, but hardly more so than Space Travel did a hundred years ago. Only the other day I came across a pious lecture, in an astronomical textbook of 1845, in which it was asserted as an unquestioned fact that Man would never learn more about the conditions on other worlds than the telescope could reveal, ‘until the Last Great Judgement Day,’ at which juncture, I would have thought, alibis would be in greater demand than astronomical information !

Jules Verne is hailed today as a pioneer of the idea of Space Travel, although a modern space-rocket is very unlike the gigantic cannon out of which the Gun Club of Baltimore caused Barbicane, Nicholl and Michael Arden to be blasted into the lunar environs. Perhaps Senhor de Araujo may be remembered as a pioneer of the notion of UFOs as time-vehicles, even in despite of the crudity of his conceptions of the manner in which Time Travel might be attained.

It seems to me that travel through Space, to or from distant worlds, may — involving, as unquestionably it must, some method of transcending the speed-of-light barrier — result in the breaking down of what appear to us at present to be the impregnable walls of Time. Maybe a spaceship arriving here from a distant star is constrained to enter upon an orbit around the Earth which is a braking-ellipse not merely in Space but in the Space-Time Continuum. (Certain long-term periodicities in UFO phenomena suggest something of the sort).

Time — and I trust my readers will forgive the pun — will tell !

J. C-B.

UFOs IN CHILE

From BOLETIN INFORMATIVO DE DIOVNI. (Santiago de Chile) No. 4
(July - September 1966)

The following is one of several sightings published in the Chilean press during the second quarter of 1966.

Towards dawn on the 1st of June two officials of the National Health Service were returning to Los Morros, a mining village situated at 160 kms from La Serena, province of Coquimbo. The night was cloudless and moonlit. When the truck in which they were travelling reached a level stretch in the high ground, they saw a ball of fire in the sky. Not being able to ascertain its origin, it occurred to them to make "signals" by changes of lights. The object then descended to some 100 metres from them, scaring them. The body was some 70 metres in diameter. Oval in its upper part and flat in the lower, with two antennas of a violet colour sticking out of the top of it. In the lower part there was a small cupola, in which three black dots could be seen. It had a swaying movement, which coincided with the appearance and disappearance of the antennas. It made no noise. Approximately an hour later an artefact in the form of a spinning top of a reddish colour approached to about 2 kms. This object emitted from its lower part a flood of light, down which descended something similar to a piston, the working of which caused the spinning top to oscillate coincidentally with the fluctuation of the first artefact seen. Soon fresh spinning tops arrived, making a total of six in all — two to the North, two to the South and two towards the range of mountains. All this occurred during the two hours preceding daybreak. The spinning top then assumed an appearance like aluminium and began to gain height in the direction of the mountain range, together with its companions. When the truck moved off, it seemed to the two men that the artefacts were following them. When they reached their destination, at about seven in the morning, they pointed out the spinning top to two other people: the remaining objects had disappeared. The four saw the object make off at high speed in the direction of the mountains.

From No. 7 of BOLETIN INFORMATIVO (Santiago de Chile).
(Resumé of press reports for 1st quarter 1967)

February 27. — UFOs were observed at daybreak today in the port of Valparaiso and in the districts of Villa Alemana and Limacha within the city. The objects, which are said to have flown to the number of five and in V-formation, were seen at 0.30 to 0.40, 1.30 and 1.40 hours. They were described as circular structures from which a "cupola" stuck out. They were discharging beams of light on the upper part. Although the morning papers state that the National Fleet had detected magnetic disturbances when the objects were observed there has been no official confirmation.

Reporters of Channel 9 of TV and of the morning paper "El Diario Ilustrado" sighted a strange object while they were on their way to Llay-Llay (a place several kilometres North-east of Santiago), which carried out strange manoeuvres. They had the chance to compare the object with an artificial satellite which was flying over the zone at the same time and with a small plane which also passed over the spot, thanks to which they have no doubts whatever about the identification of the UFO. The newspaper man, Juan Virot, succeeded in taking a photograph of the object which was published the following day. The sighting took place at 20 hours.

DIOVNI INVESTIGATIONS — In October last year the Division received an invitation from Dr. Samuel Burgos Ramirez, President of the recently founded Scientific Centre of Los Angeles, to visit the district, where numerous cases of UFO sightings have been recorded. Until that time the majority of the reports came from the northern part of the country and only isolated cases were known from Santiago to the south.

In reply to the invitation two members of DIOVNI, Juan Aguillón (director) and Alberto Bernal (asst. director) and Eugenio Aranguiz of CICA's department of Astronomical Photography, set out on the 8th February for the said city, for a visit lasting five days, in the course of which interesting information was compiled. The cases which follow are the most significant. The places where they occurred are shown on the adjoining geographical sketch.

1965, June 25th. — At nightfall, Señor Cerda of Sta Bárbara was making for there in his car, along an unpaved road. At 21 hours approximately, when he was about five minutes drive from the town, he saw a strange luminosity emitted by what looked like a "ball of fire", which disappeared behind a bend in the road which at that point borders a brook). From the brook he saw emerge once more the "beam of light", which crossed the road to the car that he was driving. At that moment the engine of the vehicle stopped and the car continued only by its own momentum.

December 2nd. — At 04.00 hours Señor Samuel Burgos Ramírez observed from the neighbourhood of San Carlos de Purén an object of ellipsoidal form, shining with a yellowish luminosity, round which was a bluish ring. In twinkling, its brilliance diminished until only a reddish point could be seen. Its brilliance prevented more details from being seen. Its movement was silent, although the observer presumed this was due to the distance. It showed up swiftly from the cordillera to the sea. The object appeared to be solid. Near the spot where the observers were (Señor Burgos was accompanied by Señor Carlos Paredes Díaz) it changed direction and flew quietly northwards and disappeared towards the cordillera.

1966, January 7th and 8th. — At 23 hours Sra Victoria, widow of Puelma, observed from the country house "La Victoria", situated at some six kilometres from the inner part of Santa Bárbara, an object with peculiar characteristics which remained motionless at some 35 degrees of altitude for the space of several hours. The artefact appeared similar in size to the moon (30 minutes). It looked like two plates, joined together at their narrowest points, round which could be distinguished four centres in the form of "ox-eyes" or luminous hatchways, which discharged green beams of light. The rest of the "body" was clearly defined, although of a dull reddish colour. During the observation the sky remained cloudless; there was no moon. The object disappeared suddenly in the cordillera at 02.30 hours. Four days later, the observation was repeated, with the same characteristics.

1967, February 3rd and 4th. — In the same district the same observer and Sra Yolanda de Büchi observed at 23.30 hours a luminous object, details of which could not be distinguished owing to its distance away. It was of a yellowish colour. It rose, oscillating continuously, rising a space and then descending a little. It appeared from the cordillera and attained a considerable altitude. Its brilliance was equal to that of a star of the first magnitude.

Trans. by Eric Biddle.

A MYSTERIOUS CELESTIAL OBJECT IN THE BULGARIAN SKY

BULGARIA : Observatory of Stara Zagora.

Thursday 6/4/67. 18.30.

JOURNAL DE DIMANCHE of 9/4/67.

Sofia, 9 April (AP). —

Two days ago a mysterious celestial body flew over the South East of Bulgaria.

The phenomenon was observed by the Observatory of Stara Zagora on Thursday at 18.30.

The celestial body, which was triangular in shape, was followed by a hardly visible trail and rapidly lost its luminosity.

FOR SALE : PHOTOGRAPHS (IN COLOURS) OF "FLYING SAUCERS".

Obs. : URUGUAY, north of Montevideo.

Thursday, 16 March 1967.

LE MAINE LIBRE, 18/19 March 1967.

by D. Leger.

Montevideo. —

A private Uruguayan astronomical observatory, known under the name of ANTARES, announced yesterday that it was offering for sale at 16.00 dollars a series of 21 very clear colour photos which it had been able to take on Thursday, in full daylight, of an "unidentified object" in the sky.

In this case, the "flying saucer", observed to the north of Montevideo, is oval in shape. It was manoeuvring at a height of nearly 6,000 metres. The object stood out distinctly in profile against the sky. In the centre of it could be seen a kind of cupola with a violet light, as well as a hatch which went from the upper part of the machine right to its edge.

The "saucer", which could be observed for an hour and 45 minutes, at one stage launched into space three smaller objects, also oval in form, the colours of which went from orange to purplish-blue.

ANTARES quickly deduced from this that it was a "mother saucer", a "gigantic spaceship" — which had just let go "satellite saucers", which were seen to move off at a dizzy speed.

The observatory claims that the photographs which it is offering for sale clearly corroborate its observations.

AN UNIDENTIFIED LUMINOUS OBJECT IN THE SKY AT MAY DUR ORNE.

FRANCE : May-sur-Orne.
10 kms south of CAEN.
Monday, 17 April 1967, about 20.45.
Paper : OUEST FRANCE of 19/4/67.

May sur Orne —

On Monday evening, at about 20.45, an inhabitant of May sur Orne, M. Joseph Ivanicki, observed a luminous object in the sky, which was heading in a northerly direction (i.e. towards Caen).

The size of a football, the mysterious object "wobbled" like a dead leaf.

It must have disappeared from the witness's sight after ten minutes of observation.

Text & Translations by Eric Biddle.

OBITUARY

We regret very much to be obliged to announce the death of the well-known American radio-commentator, author and UFO-researcher Frank Edwards, by a heart attack.

Frank Edwards was opposed to the Pentagon policy of secrecy on the subject of UFOs and fought shoulder-to-shoulder with Major Donald Keyhoe in the campaign to force the Powers-That-Be to share their findings on this subject with the public.

He will be sadly missed in UFO-research circles and it seems particularly tragic that he should have been removed at a time when, under the shadow of the possible findings of the Condon Panel, officialdom is more accomodating towards public interest in UFOs than ever before.

We have also to announce the death of Mr. E. A. Bryant of Scoriton, the central figure in the enigmatic 'Scoriton Affair.' Mr. Bryant's death was comparatively sudden and apparently due to a brain tumour.

Perhaps we shall never know whether his 'contact' experience was an imaginative figment or some kind of mystification perpetrated upon him by external sources. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

J. C-B.

BUFORA INFORMATION

Will Members please note that Mr. Ken Rogers is no longer connected with the BUFORA administration, and no further BUFORA correspondence should be sent to him. Until further notice all letters previously addressed to Mr. Rogers should be sent to : John Myers, 47 Cheneys Rd., Leytonstone, E.11 Tel. 534 - 8939

REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICERS

A revised list will be printed in next issue of BUFORA Journal.

STAR MAPS

It is hoped to include a free Star Map in the next Journal.

AROUND AND ABOUT

Lionel Beer (Vice Chairman) visited the Isle of Wight U.F.O. Investigation Society in September. Matters discussed included future production of UFOLOG and Spacelink Journal. He also dropped in on the British Flying Saucer Bureau at Bristol, (The pioneer British Ufological Society), with reference to the BUFORA Convention in Bristol in 1968.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED

Anyone wishing to dispose of . . . or sell for a modest price back numbers of 'The Flying Saucer Review' or any other UFO books or journals please contact Mr. Lionel Beer.

These are urgently needed for research.

U F O L O G

UFOLOG will continue to be published by the Isle of Wight UFO Investigation Society. The editors, John Feakins and Mrs. "Kath" Smith have asked that a carbon copy of all UFO reports sent to BUFORA or elsewhere be sent to them for possible inclusion. UFOLOG is a comprehensive journal of UFO reports.

Send reports or subscriptions (10/6d for 12 issues) to: Mrs. K. Smith, UFOLOG Ringlemere, Colwell Road, Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight.

BRISTOL CONVENTION

Graham Knewstub (former President of BUFORA) and the BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU will be acting as hosts for a one-day BUFORA convention in Bristol.

They have provisionally nominated May 18th 1967. The B.F.S.B. was the pioneer UFO society in this country and used to publish FLYING SAUCER NEWS, which is now incorporated into FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

LECTURES : The Association sponsors monthly meetings in London. Details of meetings arranged by member societies or branches, should be obtained by writing direct to them.

Please send editorial material direct to the Editor
3 Devenish Road, Weeke, Winchester, Hants.

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